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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Motomi KOHNO Art Unit: 3671

Appl. No: 10/766,477 Examiner: Not yet assigned

Confirmation No: 3729

Filed: January 29, 2004 Atty. Docket No: 31721-200490

For: SEPARATION METHOD AND Customer No:

SEPARATION DEVICE 26694

Information Disclosure Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Commissioner for Patents Mail Stop Non Fee Amendment P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is an Information Disclosure Statement submitted within the time limit specified under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

In order to comply with applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is notified of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A. The Examiner may deem these documents relevant to the patentability of the claims of the above-identified application. One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The attached PTO/SB/08A lists documents cited in the attached European Search Report. No further statement of relevance is required.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure

Serial No.: 10/766,477

Applicant: Motomi KOHNO

Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, and therefore no Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In view of the above, no further translation or statement of relevance is required. Additionally, since all requirements of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 and all official guidelines pertaining to Information Disclosure Statements have been met, it is respectfully requested that the documents be considered by the Examiner and made of record.

Please charge any necessary fee, or credit any overpayment in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account No. 22-0261.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 4, 2006

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

of

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Complete if Known				
Application Number	10/766,477			
Filing Date	January 29, 2004			
First Named Inventor	Motomi KOHNO			
Group Art Unit	3671			
Examiner Name	Not yet assigned			
Attorney Docket Number	31721-200490			

	U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Cite No.1	U.S. Pa	atent Documen	Name of Patentee or Applicant	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
	Number	Kind Code (if known)	of Cited Document			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or	Date of Publication of	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant		
	Office 3	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Applicant of Cited Document	Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ₆	
	AA	DE	512672		Steitz & Co. GmbH	11/15/1930		Х
	AB	GB	850107		Maschinenfabrik Hartmann Aktiengesellschaft	09-28-1960		
	AC	JP	2002035699		Matsushita Electric Ind. Co. Ltd.	02-05-2002		х

Examiner Signature	Date Considered	

SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.



EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.